

NOTES AND NEWS.

IN *Gardener's Chronicle* of August 24th, *Lilium Parryi* Watson is described and figured.

RODNEY H. TRUE, Ph. D. (Leipzig), has been appointed instructor in pharmacognostical botany at the University of Wisconsin.

DR. W. A. SETCHELL, instructor in botany in Yale University, has been appointed to a professorship in botany in the University of California.

A SPANISH translation of J. W. Harshberger's paper on "Maize" (Publ. of Univ. Penn.) has been made by Dr. Nicolas Leon of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Mexico.

IN HIS REVISION of the African species of *Eriosema* (a genus near *Rhynchosia*) now completed in *Jour. Bot.*, Mr. E. G. Baker enumerates forty-nine species, nineteen of which are new.

DR. J. E. HUMPHREY has been appointed lecturer in botany at Johns Hopkins University. This is a step in the right direction. We trust the department will be developed as rapidly as funds will permit.

GAUTIER AND ETARD have separately announced that the composition of chlorophyll varies. Thus far the differences pointed out are those of widely separated groups of plants, such as grass, spinach, and fern.

GINN & Co. announce this fall the "Elements of Plant Anatomy," by Emily L. Gregory, of Barnard College, and as in preparation "A High School Botany," by J. Y. Bergen, Jr., of the English high school, Boston.

THE CURRENT number (Bull. 9, Part 6, Aug. 26) of *Minnesota Botanical Studies* is entirely devoted to "A contribution to the bibliography of American Algæ," by Josephine E. Tilden. The titles, 1544 in number, are arranged by authors.

THE ATTENTION of botanists is called to the fact that the American Association table at Woods Hole is equally open to them as to zoologists. Up to the present time no botanist has occupied it. Inquiries may be addressed to the Director, Dr. C. O. Whitman.

THE IMPORTANT COLLECTIONS of the late Professor D. C. Eaton have been offered as a gift to Yale University if the institution will purchase the library. We are not informed as to how the offer has been received by the university. It is to be hoped that the library and collections will not be scattered.

THE VIENNA Botanical Exchange Society has determined upon extending its exchanges to extra-European plants. American botanists who desire to obtain European plants will find it to their advantage

to write for rules and terms of exchange to J. Dörfler, Wien, Austria, III. Barichgasse 36.

MR. O. F. COOK will shortly return to Liberia to continue his studies of tropical fungi and other plants.

MR. D. T. MACDOUGAL, of the University of Minnesota, has returned from his trip abroad. Most of his time in Europe was spent in the laboratory of Professor Pfeffer at Leipzig in the study of the transmission of stimuli.

THE LIBRARY of the American Association for the Advancement of Science is to be deposited with the University of Cincinnati. It is especially rich in proceedings of foreign societies. Books may be drawn by members of the Association and forwarded as they may direct.

MR. E. P. BICKNELL (*Bull. Torr.* 22: 351) has described two new species of *Sanicula* from the eastern United States, dissociating them from the well known *S. Canadensis* and *S. Marylandica*, and naming them *S. gregaria* and *S. trifoliata*. In the same number Mr. John K. Small continues his studies in our southeastern flora, describing as new a *Siegingia*, a *Rumex*, and a *Acer*.

STRASBURGER'S statement of the period when the reduction of chromosomes observed in the gametes takes place is called in question by Haecker, as not consistent with observations on the same process by zoologists. He thinks there may be such a thing as "pseudo-reductions." The homologizing of this process in plants and animals is extremely important if possible.

MR. J. G. LEMMON has issued a third (pocket) edition of his very handy book on "West-American cone-bearers." The plea for good English names is strongly put, a thing which will be best established by just such a book as this, for it should find a place in the pocket of every one coming in contact with our western conifers who is at all interested in distinguishing them. Mr. Lemmon's address is Oakland, California.

THE CITY of Norwalk, Conn., is the home of the "Norwalk Tree Inoculation Co.," which, for a consideration, proposes to keep trees free from injurious insects. To this end (the consideration!) the trees are bored with from two to four 1-inch auger-holes, in which a secret compound (which consists of flowers of sulphur disguised with carbon), is placed, and the hole closed with a wood plug. Many persons in the Connecticut valley have been victimized. We understand that the state right for New Jersey was sold for \$6,000. Mr. L. O. Howard, chief of the Division of Entomology, has exposed the fraud.

MASSE'S "British Fungus Flora" was promised to us in three volumes. In the third a supplementary volume was announced, in which the Pyrenomycetes and Tuberaceæ were to appear. This fourth volume is now at hand, but does not contain these groups, so that the inference is that there will be a fifth volume. The genus *Schweinitzia*

of the fourth volume cannot be accepted, as we have a genus of flowering plants by that name in this country. It was given by Elliott and may be found among the *Ericaceæ* of Gray's Manual. It is also duly recorded by Bentham & Hooker in *Genera Plantarum*, 2: 606.

IN THE *Bull. de l'Herb. Boiss.* of August, G. Lindau describes twenty-two new species of American Acanthaceæ, ten of which are from Bolivia, and the rest from Brazil, Venezuela, Central America and Mexico. Ten of the species belong to *Ruellia* and six to *Aphelandra*. In the same number, studies in the African flora are continued by Schinz, assisted by numerous specialists. Hackel describes twenty-four new grasses; Schinz proposes a new zygothylaceous genus (*Kelleronia*); Klatt describes twenty-seven new Compositæ, of which *Pentatrichia* is a new genus; and altogether eighty-nine new forms are presented.

RADAIS, from his study of the development and structure of the female flower of Conifers, claims that only in *Taxoideæ* does the seed remain naked until maturity, ample protection being afforded by the scales of the cone. We do not see that this has anything to do with the gymnospermy of these plants, as the ovule still remains naked so far as its own sporophyll is concerned. The homologizing of gymnosperm ovule with an angiosperm "pistil" is certainly questionable, for there is no reason why the somewhat loose term "flower" need be used in a different sense in the two groups. That Coniferæ are archegoniates whose method of fertilization has been modified by removal from water is certainly a reasonable conclusion.

THE FIRST botanical publication from the Field Columbian Museum (Chicago), is entitled "Contribution to the Flora of Yucatan," by Dr. C. F. Millspaugh, Curator, Department of Botany. Last January an expedition from the Museum visited Yucatan and certain neighboring islands, accompanied by Dr. Millspaugh. A small collection of plants was made which forms the basis of the present contribution. The list given includes not only the plants collected but also those credited to Yucatan by Hemsley, thus forming a starting point for the subsequent exploration of this very interesting flora. Thus far 264 species are recorded from the mainland, and 314 from the adjacent islands.

AN INVITATION to the botanists from Dr. Farlow to visit Cambridge on Saturday in lieu of the general excursion of the A. A. A. S. was accepted by a dozen, who were entertained with lavish hospitality. Under the guidance of Dr. Farlow and Dr. Robinson they visited the botanical laboratories in the Agassiz Museum, the Botanical Garden and Herbarium, and the Arnold Arboretum. They were received by Mrs. Gray at an afternoon tea and shown the first volume of autograph letters of botanists which has been prepared from those received by Dr. Gray, the original drawings by Sprague for the *Genera Illustrata*, an autograph of Linnæus, and various other things of interest to botanists. At the Arboretum, Mr. C. E. Faxon accompanied the party and explained the plans for planting.